

What is claimed is:

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1. A recombinant nucleic acid comprising a nucleic
acid encoding a mammalian SNORF68 receptor,
5 wherein the mammalian receptor-encoding nucleic
acid hybridizes under high stringency conditions
to a nucleic acid encoding a human SNORF68
receptor and having a sequence identical to the
sequence of the human SNORF68 receptor-encoding
10 nucleic acid contained in plasmid pEXJ.T3T7-
hSNORF68-f (Patent Deposit Designation No.
PTA_____).
 2. A recombinant nucleic acid comprising a nucleic
15 acid encoding a human SNORF68 receptor, wherein
the human SNORF68 receptor comprises an amino acid
sequence identical to the sequence of the human
SNORF68 receptor encoded by the shortest open
reading frame indicated in Figures 1A-1C (SEQ ID
20 NO: 1).